

San Diego DX Club Bulletin



May 2014



SDDXC Members listening attentively after a filling meal at the 2014 IDXC. Overall attendance was great., so no surprise the QRM level was way down all weekend.

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

For real time DX spotting and lively conversation on a variety of subjects, join us on 144.415 MHz.

MAY PROGRAM

Bodo, DF8DX will share some pictures and talk about his activities at 5N0OCH (also 5N7Q), 5H1DX, T88QX, 8Q7QX.

MAY MEETING NOTICE:

**JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,
San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28, 2014

SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M.

DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

A Word from the Prez	2
Vice President 's Report	3
Secretary/Treasurer Rpt	4
Editor's Ramblings	4
SDDXC Top Ten	5
How's DX	6
General Interest Items	7-10



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A Word from the Prez . . .

Dan Severance, N6ERD

Greetings DXers,

See you at the Sizzler on May 28th.

73, Dan, N6ERD



Our presenter, Bodo, DF8DX

Bodo will share some pictures and talk about his activities at 5N0OCH (also 5N7Q), 5H1DX, T88QX, 8Q7QX. He has some nice pictures of one of the biggest HF antennas in the world.

The previously scheduled T33A presentation will be seen at a later date.

Vice President's Report



Greetings to all!

Here's hoping this finds everyone in good spirits and that you had a great Memorial Day Weekend. Also hope that the propagation was in your favor if you played in the CQWW QPX CW Contest. <http://www.3830scores.com/> It sure was nice to be back at the newly remodeled Sizzler last month. They sure did heap of work on it and the meeting is room really nice now. Kind of hard to believe that they used our logo for the wall mural!

This month's meeting will be at The Sizzler and our presentation will be by Bodo, DF8DX. He will share some pictures and talk about his activities at 5N00CH (also 5N7Q), 5H1DX, T88QX, 8Q7QX. He also has some nice pictures of one of the biggest HF antennas in the world.

Check your logs to see if you've worked him as any of his calls because he mentioned that he will be bringing QSL cards with him. Here's a tidbit of some of his adventures on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNnygsBT5zw>. It's not often that we have DX visitors in town so the previously scheduled T33A presentation will be seen at a later date.

Thanks to Leo Almazan, WA6LOS, Team Leader of the April 2015 DXpedition to the Spratly's for his fine business presentation last month!

I received an e-mail from Marcin, SP5ES, about a planned DXpedition to Tokelau ZK3 in October of this year. Please check out their flyer further down the newsletter.

If you are a contributor to the ARRL, now might be the time to take advantage of a matching program that's in place. From the league: "You have a special opportunity - right now - to double your contribution to the ARRL Second Century Campaign. Through July 31, your Campaign gift will be matched by the Valentine Challenge Match, funded by Maxim

Society member Mike Valentine, W8MM. "You can find out more about that at this link: <https://www.arrrl.org/arrrl-donation-form>

There is still plenty of DX on every day, check out the Leagues DX Bulletin here: <http://www.arrrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive/ARLD021/2014> If you're wondering what's on the contest horizon check here <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/weeklycont.php> And DXpeditions here: <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Are you looking for something to do on the weekend of June 7th and 8th? I got a note from Paul Schmidt, K6PKS:

"Dear Friends, the San Diego 100 Mile Endurance Run is in great need of radio operators for this year's event on June 7-8. Please contact Conrad Lara, KG6JEI, at kg6jei@amsat.org if you are able to come out and provide radio communications support for this event." (N6UWW and I have done communications for this event a number of times but this one collides with our work down south for the Baja 500.)

Do you have a whole bunch of extra money laying around for a new QTH? Here's a place that was in the local news (and you won't need a tower!) <http://www.sandiego6.com/news/local/Hot-property-in-San-Diego--258584041.html>

Please remember that the club's newsletter is only as good as the information Ron receives, so just take the time to submit any DX related stories, tall tales, musings of a madman or crazy lady for his consideration. Thanks Ron for all you do!

73 & 88's to the pretty ones ~

Wild Bill, WB6BFG

"To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk" ~ Thomas Edison

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Ellen, N6UWW



Secretary's Report

The April 23rd meeting was conducted by Dan N6ERD at Sizzler on Aero Dr. The long awaited remodel is complete!

Old Business:

Mike NA6MB reported on the Poway Antenna issue.

There was no New Business.

John K6AM reminded the group about the Club's upcoming elections.

Leo WA6LOS gave a presentation on the expedition to the Spratly's planned for 2015.

Treasurer's Report

Additions: \$70 dues

Check #583 \$23.98 March speaker's meal
Statement Balance 4/30/2014 \$5804.50

\$2,000 check from the SCDXC for Visalia help has yet to be deposited

"On behalf of the Southern California DX Club and the 2014 IDXC Convention committee, we would like to thank you for your participation in the 2014 International DX Convention, enclosed please find a check for \$2000. This year with everyone's help and support the convention was a tremendous success. Please express our appreciation to each of your members for their help.

Kristine M. Jacob KC6TOD
Secretary – Southern California DX Club
IDXC 2014 Treasurer/Registration Chair"

Mark your calendars for the Summer Bash which will be held Sunday August 17th and hosted by SoCal DX Club.

Ellen, N6UWW

Editor's Ramblings

Thanks to John (K6AM), Dennis (N6KI), Bob (N6TV), and Jim (K6ZH) for providing inputs this month.

Row, NORR

CW is not just a mode, it is a lifestyle

The SDDXC Top Ten

By John, K6AM

TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON 17 METERS

5/14	5/13	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	40	?	?	339	+1
2.	2.	K6AM	40	326	332	333	+2
3.	3.	N7CW	40	312	312	326	+3
4.	8.	K6XT	40	278	280	316	+47
5.	4.	K0XB	40	299	302	310	+4
6.	5.	W6YI	38	272	274	305	+9
7.	6.	N6CW	39	?	231	297	+5
8.	7.	W6YOO	37	275	280	280	-
9.	9.	WB6BFG	38	253	255	274	+23
10.	-	K6ZH	39	240	242	272	NEW

TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON 12 METERS

5/14	5/13	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	40	?	?	327	+6
2.	2.	K6AM	40	309	314	319	+5
3.	4.	N7CW	40	260	260	300	+23
4.	9.	K6XT	40	240	241	284	+65
5.	7.	W6YI	37	235	237	284	+58
6.	6.	K0XB	39	261	263	275	+40
7.	5.	N6CW	39	?	192	268	+3
8.	-.	WB6BFG	39	205	207	230	NEW
9.	-.	WN6K	38	187	188	228	NEW
10.	8.	W6YOO	36	224	227	227	+2

On 17, almost everyone reported in with a healthy jump. Over on 12, plenty of giant leaps as the active players take advantage of the huge openings over the past year. Nice work gents. As cycle 24 peaks, these bands have been very productive. There were lots of EU openings on 12 in the past few months. 17 remains a very viable band and should continue for several more years to come.

Both of these lists are much easier to break into than the other bands. If you're not playing the WARC bands, you're missing a chance to experience the thrill of working a new one several times every month. The little Cushcraft WARC dipole is all you need to get started. The newer Force 12 Antennas work on 12 and 17 with a couple dB of gain as well.

Each month, we will publish top ten lists for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, 160 meters, RTTY and band-countries. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

SDDXC RESULTS

2013 ARRL SWEEPSTAKES PHONE CONTEST

CLASS	CALL	SCORE	QSO'S	MLTS	
MS - HP	NX6T (ops: K6AM NØDY N6AN N6CY N6KI W2PWS	312,080	1,880	83	#1 SW DIV #4 US/VE
SO - HP	K6NA (N6ED, op)	308,760	1,861	83	#1 SW DIV #6 US/VE



How's DX?

This page consists of historical data so members can share information or brag about their accomplishments. For real time info, monitor the club 2m spotting frequency, 144.415 MHz. For future DX info subscribe to the ARRL weekly DX bulletin and/or W3UR's newsletter.

Sorry DXers, must have been a slow month for DX. No inputs received. However, April QSOs brought May QSLs.

QSLs Received Recently

Station	Via	Station	Via
TY1TT	ON6DX	UN7GP	Direct
ER1LW	Direct	UN7GQ	Direct
GU4CHY	Direct	T32TM	K8NA
HS0ZKX	W2EN	Z33Z	Direct
IS0AFM	Direct	HS0ZJF	Direct
JT1CD	Direct	TX6G	OQRS
UK9AA	Direct	UK8OM	Direct
UK8OWW	Direct	4S7DFG	DL7UFR

2014 CQWW WPX Contest, CW

This past weekend - 10 Ops from San Diego Contest Club
using WQ6X Call Sign, broke the All Time W6 Record for CQWW WPX CW
for M/2 HP AB Category with 9.6 Million Points.

Operators: N6KI WQ6X KB7V WA2OOB WB6NBU NN6X N6EEG K4RB N0DY
Station: NX6T

Band QSOs

 160: 5
 80: 102
 40: 658
 20: 1498
 15: 1191
 10: 158 Total: 3612 Prefixes = 1096 Total Score = 9,619,592

Best M2 Category performance from NX6T portable site. Condx good on Friday eve and Saturday but A index shot up to 19 put the fire out. Could not get much going on 80 or 10 meters all weekend. Sigs in EU very weak on Sunday but they seemed to hear us OK. Winds kept power line noise up almost all weekend and tested our ability to dig the serial numbers out ! 3 K3s - 2 ACOM 2000A, 70 ft & 40 ft portable tower trailers, 2 3 EL SteppIRs, 2 2 EL 40 mtr Yagis, 80 & 160 Inv V dipoles. Not much for antennas but compared to some of the Antenna Farms we compete against, we just make up for the deficiency with good persevering Ops !

73 de N6KI, San Diego Contest Club

The San Diego DX Club

We, Jacek SP5EAQ and Marcin SP5ES, are planning to be QRV from Tokelau (ZK3) from the 8th of October 2014 till the end of month on 80-10m bands. Jacek operates SSB only, while Marcin does SSB and CW. The activity is planned for the period of three weeks, however, the exact dates may change due to the uncertainty of the transportation.

We have already been granted required entry approvals for the Nukunonu atoll. Tokelau visas, preliminary ship booking and local accommodation have also been secured. We expect to get ZK3Q (SP5EAQ) and ZK3E (SP5ES) call signs, which will be confirmed upon arrival at ZK3. Some activity from Apia (5W) is planned on the return leg of the trip, in early November 2014.

There is foreseen participation in CQ WW SSB and Oceania DX Contest. Both of us are experienced hams (over 35 years licenced, and both holdes of DXCC Honour Roll) and DX-peditioners. Jacek's previous activity include A3EAQ, T30AQ, 3D2MJ, and ZL7/SP5EAQ. Marcin previous activity CR1M from Azores, also specializes in the World Flora & Fauna program, operating over 350 times from over 130 different [WFF](#) object (Flora & Fauna Program) entities, many of them activated for the first time. He is also a member of SN2B – multi contest team.

While we are prepared to meet all the DX-pedition financial challenges, we are seeking sponsorship and donations from individuals, DX Clubs and organizations towards any air excess baggage charges (known to be very high), printing QSL cards, and similar expenses including boat tickets and insurance. This expedition is clearly more expensive than the previous ones due to complexity of transportation and floating dates, which make advance 5W travel and accommodation booking impossible. At the moment we have valid flight tickets up to Apia with the total budget reaching 10.000 Euro, your donations may help a lot.

We plan that QSL service would be processed via all possible channels – bureau, direct, LotW and also OQRS is planned. We will observe the Code of Conduct.

We offer to put information about our sponsors on the internet page and qsl cards. In the case, if DX– pedition due some reasons could be not provided, we will return to sponsors all funds received.

Any info from your organization would be appreciated, also if would be negative.

Best 73, Marcin Adamowicz SP5ES



Dylan, KK6IFZ, wins the 2014 IDXF “Youngest Ham” award (Photo by N6TV)



Notice the theme here?



Must have been a long presentation

K6NA (AND A VERY LARGE BOOM LIFT) COME TO RESCUE OF K6ZH'S WIND-DAMAGED ANTENNAS

After the recent spate of high winds in the San Diego area, Jim K6ZH noted that one of the elements on his 4-element SteppIR had literally blown off the antenna. Fortunately it landed “unhurt” on the driveway. [Also fortunately the tower had been cranked down and the SteppIR elements were “homed” when this happened]. But the antenna was no longer operative. And he noticed that the electrical tape holding the coax line leading to driven element on the 2-element 40 meter beam on the top of his tower had come loose; the coax was kind of whipping in the wind. The fixes would be easy enough to make, but physically getting to the fixes would not.

Plausible approaches: have 4 or 5 guys come over for an “antenna party,” take it all down, make the repairs, and put it all back up – minimum of a very long day, lots of pulleys, rope, re-doing cable routes, etc. OR Rent a boom lift and make the repairs directly on the antennas. Jim has a crank-up tower, so the maximum height above the ground was about 35 feet (to get to the 40-meter beam) with the tower cranked down.

Jim opted for the boom lift, and Glenn K6NA was able to work his busy schedule to make a trip to Jim's QTH on Wednesday May 21st. About 7 a.m. that morning the boom lift arrived in front of Jim's house. It was ***big*** - an 85-footer. Apparently that's what was available. For insurance reasons, Jim had to drive the boom lift down his driveway (a bit of an experience). And then the delivery driver gave Jim and Glenn a quickie introduction into how to operate the boom lift. There are a lot of controls, and only icons by each control lever and switch. But they figured it out. Glenn replaced all of the boots on the SteppIR (where the fiberglass elements



Learning the Controls

meet the Element Housing Units on the mast), plus added foam-filled end caps on each element. Then it was time to ‘thread the needle’ and get to the 40 meter beam. Glenn had to negotiate the work basket around both the SteppIR and the 30 meter dipole to get all the way to the top. He fastened the coax to the boom with cable ties and electrical tape (photos 3 and 4). Total time: about 6 hours, including a lunch break.

The boom lift came from Otay Mesa Sales. Jim found them to be very responsive and easy to work with. Their cost was considerably less than other competitors that he called. The total bill for this evolution was just under \$500. The “right way” to do this, of course, would be to have delivery on Friday afternoon and pick-up on Monday morning for a major pro-



Fixing the SteppIR Elements

ject, and still only be charged for one day rental!

Anyway, it's done, Jim's back on the air and happy, and the both the SteppIR and the 40-2CD should be good for more years. Supposedly SteppIR is using better boots with UV protection.

Tnx ***very*** much to Glenn K6NA who is “the best of the best” for tower work!

Jim, K6ZH



All the way up to the 40m Beam



It's a Really Big Rig